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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 IO-13 H-01 OIC-02 /077 W
----------093570 232255Z /15
O R 232225Z MAY 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8822
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 09464

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, NATO, EEC
SUBJ: NATO MINISTERIAL: SENIOR LEVEL MEETING ON
BERLIN AND GERMANY -- ASSESSMENT AND BERLIN/EC
PAPER

REF: (A) BONN 9339 (B) BONN 9252 (C) BONN 9175

SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP CONSIDERED PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE ASSESSMENT AND THE BERLIN/EC PAPER AT ITS MEETING ON MAY 23. THE CHANGES, OCCASIONED PRIMARILY BY INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON AND PARIS, WERE ALL AGREED AD REF BY THE FRG, US AND UK REPS BUT THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE FELT COMPELLED TO CONFINE HIMSELF TO CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTING THE CHANGES TO THE ASSESSMENT SINCE HE HAD STILL NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE LATEST AD REF DRAFT OF THE ASSESSMENT. THE FRENCH PAPER ON BERLIN AND THE EC HAS STILL NOT ARRIVED ALTHOUGH WE ARE TOLD THAT IT IS AWAITING FINAL APPROVAL IN PARIS. IT IS EVIDENT FROM THE BONN GROUP DISCUSSION THAT THE SUBJECT OF BERLIN AND THE EC WILL AGAIN OCCUPY MUCH OF THE

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TIME OF THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING. ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROVAL OF CHANGES SET OUT BELOW. END SUMMARY.

ASSESSMENT

1. THE UK REP (EYERS) REPORTED THAT LONDON HAD AGREED
TO DROP ITS BRACKETS IN PARA 1. THE FRG REP
(VON BRAUNMUEHL) SAID HE WAS UNABLE TO DELETE THE FRG
BRACKETS BUT SUGGESTED THAT THE SENTENCE, IN BRACKETS,
NOT BE DROPPED SINCE IT WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE SENIOR-LEVEL MEETING TO
DISCUSS THE SUBJECT. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, THE EMBASSY
SUGGESTS LEAVING THE SENTENCE, IN FRG BRACKETS, IN THE
ASSESSMENT RATHER THAN SEEKING TO HAVE IT DELETED.

2. IN PARA 13, CHANGE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ: "IT
SEEMS CERTAIN THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL CONTINUE ITS
EFFORTS TO WEAKEN THE TIES BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS
AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ALTHOUGH THE
SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE NO PROGRESS TOWARD THEIR
LONG-TERM GOAL OF CONVERTING THE CITY INTO THE "INDEPENDENT
POLITICAL ENTITY" WHICH THEY AND THE GDR ALREADY CLAIM
IT IS." (COMMENT: THIS AMENDMENT IS PRIMARILY AN
EDITORIAL CHANGE PROPOSED BY THE UK WHICH THE OTHER
THREE REPS CONSIDER UNNECESSARY. WE ACCEPT IT TO
FACILITATE AGREEMENT. END COMMENT.)
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3. IN THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 14, DELETE "VERY"
AND "ALTHOUGH IT SOMETIMES TOOK LONGER THAN WAS
DESIRABLE". (COMMENT: EYERS SAID THAT LONDON MADE
THIS PROPOSAL BECAUSE THE FCO WOULD NOT WISH TO PRESENT
A PAPER TO MINISTERS WHICH IMPLICITLY CRITICIZED THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS' GUIDANCE OF THE BONN GROUP. THE
SUBSTANCE WAS CERTAINLY WORTH DISCUSSION AT THE QUAD
MEETING, HE SAID, BUT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO HAVE THE
OLD PASSAGE IN PARA 14 TO EVOKE SUCH A DISCUSSION.
END COMMENT).

4. SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING FOR THE OLD VERSION OF
PARA 15-B. "SUBJECT TO ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILI-
TIES, BERLIN IS PART OF THE AREA OF APPLICABILITY OF
THE TREATIES SETTING UP THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND
IS ACCORDINGLY INCLUDED IN ALL AGREEMENTS OF THE
COMMUNITIES WITH THIRD COUNTRIES. PROBLEMS HAVE ARISEN
IN RECENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE EEC AND THE SOVIET
UNION, THE GDR, POLAND AND HUNGARY, BECAUSE OF THE
EASTERN COUNTRIES' RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT THIS INCLUSION.
BEGIN FRG BRACKETS: THE WESTERN POSITION MUST BE

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CAREFULLY MAINTAINED AND PROTECTED BUT IT IS IMPORTANT

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ALSO THAT A SITUATION SHOULD BE AVOIDED IN WHICH EVERY POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST IS BLOCKED BECAUSE OF THE APPLICABILITY CLAUSE. END FRG BRACKETS. IT IS OF DIRECT MATERIAL INTEREST TO MEMBER STATES OF THE EEC THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS WITH THE CEMA AND EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES ON THE SUBJECTS FOR WHICH IT IS COMPETENT. AS THESE SUBJECTS AND AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THEM ARE OF INHERENT IMPORTANCE TO THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ALSO, THEY SEEM TO OFFER THE MOST FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITY WHICH WILL OCCUR TO OBTAIN SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF BERLIN'S PLACE IN THE COMMUNITIES. FLEXIBILITY AND INGENUITY WILL BE NEEDED BY ALL CONCERNED." (COMMENT: GAUSSOT SAID THAT PARIS HAD
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ASKED HIM TO HAVE THE OLD PARA 15-B AMENDED BY SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING FOR THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THAT PARA: "THE INCLUSION OF BERLIN IN THESE AGREEMENTS, SUBJECT TO ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IN SO FAR AS IT CONTRIBUTES TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY AND GUARANTEES ITS ECONOMIC STABILITY." NONE OF THE OTHER REPS AGREED TO THIS PROPOSAL, AND GAUSSOT AGREED TO REPORT TEXT TRANSMITTED ABOVE. END COMMENT.)

5. IN PARA 15-C, DELETE FIRST SENTENCE AND SUBSTITUTE: "IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE CLEAREST POSSIBLE DISTINCTION SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BETWEEN FUNCTIONS WHICH HERR STOBBE WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE AS GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN AND THOSE WHICH HE WILL EXERCISE AS PRESIDENT OF THE BUNDESRAT." (COMMENT: EYERS SAID LONDON SUGGESTED THIS CHANGE BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL VERSION WAS SOMEWHAT AMBIGIOUS AND MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN UNDERSTOOD BY MINISTERS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS OF THE QUESTION. END COMMENT.)

EC PAPER (REF C)

6. SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING FOR THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA (2): "THERE WERE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AS TO THE FULL SCOPE OF THE MANDATE, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT THE BONN GROUP SHOULD CONTINUE TO STUDY THE PROBLEMS." -- IN THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA (3), DELETE "IN THE BONN GROUP, THE SECOND ON (DATE) MAY."

7. THE FIRST CHANGE WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO PARIS' PROPOSAL, THAT THE FIRST PART OF THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 2 ("THERE...BUT") BE DELETED. GAUSSOT SAID PARIS

AGREED THAT THERE HAD BEEN DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION ABOUT THE MANDATE AT THE LAST NATO MINISTERIAL DISAGREED THAT THERE WAS A LACK OF CONSENSUS IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED. THE OTHER THREE REPS WHO, UNLIKE GAUSSOT, HAD ATTENDED THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING, TOOK A CONTRARY POSITION. THEY AGREED TO THE REVISED TEXT IN ORDER TO ALLOW GAUSSOT TO PRESENT PARIS WITH ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE HOPE OF FINDING COMMON GROUND. THE SECOND CHANGE WAS ALSO BASED ON PARIS' PROPOSAL THAT THE REFERENCE TO THE DATE WHEN THE SECOND (FRENCH) PAPER HAD BEEN SUBMITTED BE DELETED. SINCE THERE IS LITTLE HOPE OF

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HAVING IT INTRODUCED IN THE BONN GROUP (IT MAY BE SUB-
MITTED DIRECTLY AT THE SENIOR LEVEL MEETING), IT WAS
AGREED TO DELETE THE REFERENCE TO THE BONN GROUP AND
TO THE DATE.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF ABOVE CHANGES.
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